

CALIFORNIA FIRE WEATHER ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN



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I. INTRODUCTION

A. The California Fire Weather Annual Operating Plan (AOP) constitutes an agreement between the California Wildfire Coordinating Group (CWCG) comprised of State, local government and Federal land management agencies charged with the protection of life, property and resources within the State of California from threat of wildfire; and the National Weather Service (NWS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, charged with providing weather forecasts to the Nation for the protection of life and property.

The AOP provides specific procedural and policy information regarding the delivery of meteorological services to the fire management community in California. The NWS and CWCG work closely in all phases of the fire weather forecast and warning program to resolve concerns and avoid potential inconsistencies in products and services prior to delivery to fire agency customers. The goal of all agencies is to maximize firefighter and public safety through a coordinated delivery of consistent services.

Fire protection within California is made efficient by the statewide exchange among Federal, State, and local agencies of their responsibilities for the protection of certain lands. Non-federal wildland fire management agencies are by agreement protecting Federal lands, and therefore, require NWS fire weather forecasts and warnings. It is essential that all fire protection agencies receive coordinated fire weather and fire danger services.

B. Roles and responsibilities of the NWS and the interagency fire management community are set forth in the following reference documents:

- [Interagency Agreement for Meteorological Services Among the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service of the U.S. Dept. of Interior, the Forest Service of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, and the National Weather Service of the U.S. Dept. of Commerce \(National MOA or National Agreement\)](#);
- [CWCG – NWS California Fire Weather Program Assessment Team Charter](#);
- [National Weather Service NWSI 10-4: Fire Weather Services](#) ;
- [2014 National Mobilization Guide](#) ;
- [2013 California Mobilization Guide](#) ;
- [National Predictive Services Handbook](#); and
- [NWCG Glossary](#)

C. Participating agencies include the following:

- Federal, State and local fire agencies comprising the [California Wildfire Coordinating Group \(CWCG\)](#);
- The NOAA/National Weather Service offices serving California
- Representatives from independent city/county fire agencies.

CHANGES AND UPDATES FOR 2014

- The NWS WFOs may use social media and other tools including Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Weather Stories and webinars to engage the public and our partners in conversation around important weather, water, and climate issues. At times, fire weather concerns may be addressed through these venues, in addition to other already established means. Please refer to your local office's individual section, or contact the office directly, for details on how these tools are used locally.